



ALEXANDRIA:
FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 8, 1858.

In reference to the alleged "corruption fund" applied by Lawrence, Stone, & Co., of Boston, to secure the passage in Congress of the tariff of 1857, the Union hopes that Mr. Lawrence will make a full confession of the use to which the \$70,000 was put, and name the individuals who received it. Justice to the innocent, who cannot now be distinguished from the guilty, requires this at his hands. Or if he shall be unable of his own knowledge to give such explanation, it suggests that his copartners, Mr. Stone and Mr. Slade, who were in Washington while this bill was under consideration, and took a most active interest in its passage, be called upon to divulge what they may know concerning the matter.

The presence of Mr. Banks, and other prominent politicians in Richmond, the Paulding resolutions in the Legislature, and the Walker meeting in Petersburg, give rise to the rumors referred to in a letter from Richmond, published yesterday, that the "excitement" is a political movement, concocted in Washington. As far as Mr. Banks, and Col. Kemper, who offered the resolution in the Legislature, are concerned, we cannot believe that they have been engaged in any political "wire pulling." They are both, doubtless, sincere in their convictions—and the latter gentleman has proposed his resolution on his own responsibility.

The Richmond South has an article complaining of the "position to which the state of Maine has been raised in the distribution of federal offices," and calling particular attention to the case of Mr. Appleton, assistant secretary of state, "because his employment in the office which he holds, affects injuriously Southern interests."

The article in the South-Side Democrat, deprecating the introduction of the Nicaragua resolutions in the Virginia Legislature, was written in the absence of Mr. Banks.—The obvious article is disclaimed. Mr. Banks cordially approves of the more condemning Paulding, and has been active in stimulating it.

The subject of French Spoliations has been again brought up for consideration. Mr. Fessenden of the Senate has introduced a resolution to make provision for the claimants of French spoliations prior to July 31st, 1851.—This is a subject of more than ordinary importance, involving many personal interests and claims which should have been adjusted long ago. Bills looking to the settlement of these obligations were twice passed by Congress, but vetoed—unjustly we think—by Presidents Polk and Pierce.

The debate on Com. Paulding's case, continued in the House of Representatives on Wednesday, on the motion to refer the different parts of the President's Message to the appropriate committees, was agreeably (?) diversified by one speech from one Ohio member, "on the Dred Scott decision!"

Democratic public sentiment is pointing to Hon. John Letcher, as the next democratic candidate for Governor of Virginia. He is a strong party man, but honest and true, and of such abilities as would secure an able administration of the executive department.

The Kansas debate begins to pall upon the public ear. There may be a few good speeches yet to come—but the pith and marrow of the whole matter have already been extracted. The evil in Congress is, that a subject is run to death, before it is dropped.

The January number of the Southern Literary Messenger has been received. It has a pleasing variety and some excellent papers. To sustain such a literary work is the duty of Virginians. The editor performs his task well and worthily.

The Legislature of Maryland failed to organize on Wednesday. It was expected, however, that the House of Delegates would elect a Speaker yesterday, and the Governor's Message be sent in.

This day is the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans, when the American troops, under Gen. Jackson, gained a glorious victory, which will always be remembered in our country.

Mr. Commodore Vincent, charged with murdering a negro man in Greenville county, Va., some twelve years ago, and which murder he is said to have confessed, was tried on Monday, and acquitted.

The Norfolk Argus intimates that one King, who made an aerial voyage from that city, a few days since, has taken his everlasting flight, leaving sundry bills, due to printers and others, unliquidated.

Although there is something of increased activity in the money market of New York, yet it is evident that a regular increase of business need not be expected during the winter months.

Gov. POWELL, (dem.) has been elected U. S. Senator from Kentucky, receiving 80 votes. He succeeds Mr. Thompson. Garrett Davis received 54 votes.

The Hon. David Stewart, a prominent member of the Baltimore bar, and formerly for a brief period a Senator in Congress from Maryland, under Executive appointment, died at his residence in Baltimore on Tuesday morning.

The New Conservatory attached to the President's Mansion is said to be the largest in the United States, and will before long most probably equal, if not exceed, any other in its variety of native and exotic shrubs and flowering plants.

A Ladies' Association has been established in England to promote care in the physical training of young girls, and "for the diffusion of sanitary knowledge and promotion of physical education." One lady has given a house at Brighton to the institution, and a gentleman the exclusive use of a room in Cavendish Square, for the meetings of a London association; and the Countess de Nervilles, Miss Boddett, Counts, and Hon. Mr. Cowper, with other ladies and gentlemen, have evinced their favorable wishes to the object of meeting the national want of sanitary training institutions for adult females. A benevolent physician has offered his assistance in instructing classes of school-mistresses in different places, and also his gratuitous advice at the institutions.

It is said that the Administration wait with great interest the arrival of the ratified Yarrissari treaty, expected from Nicaragua. This treaty, if ratified by the United States Senate, will put an end to filibustering on private account, but will make it a matter of public concern. It gives us the command of the Isthmus region. It protects American citizens and property in the Isthmus ports, and gives us the right to protect the transit by military force. This government, it is believed, will not be slow to employ the privileges of the treaty, but will eagerly avail themselves of the same, well knowing that it must speedily lead to the Americanization of the Isthmus.

The "registered letter" system, it appears, does not work so well in the transmission of money by mail, as was expected. It has served rather to direct the attention of dishonest persons to letters thus marked, distinguishing them at once as valuable. The present Postmaster General, in his annual report alludes to a plan matured by his predecessor for issuing money orders by every Postmaster upon other Postmasters for the transmission of small sums to persons at various points throughout the country. A similar system has been in operation throughout England for many years, and is found to work well.

The Baltimore American says:—"We learn that at a meeting of the Committee on Purchase of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, held on Tuesday, the contract for supplying the Baltimore and Ohio and the Parkersburg Railroads with coal and coke for the year 1858, was awarded to Messrs. Dabbs & Warfield. We believe they intend supplying it from the Franklin and Hampshire Companies mines, which they represent. As this contract somewhat exceeds 100,000 tons, it is a very heavy engagement, and will keep the above companies in active operation to fulfill it."

A suit of much interest in regard to the recovery of certain letters written by Gen. Washington to his Secretary, Tobias Lear, between the years 1790 and 1799, has been recently argued in the Supreme Court of New York. The letters are now in the possession of Mrs. Higbee, wife of Rev. Edward Y. Higbee, one of the assistant ministers of Trinity church. They are claimed by Mrs. Nelson Eyre, as heir of Tobias Lear, deceased. Hon. George Bancroft was present, and took much interest in the proceedings.

Amongst other casualties of the last year, Mr. Merriam, names eighty-six deaths of persons produced by the use of their own guns or the guns of sportsmen; and thirty persons injured, five of whom were not expected to recover, while engaged in hunting to wound and kill little birds during the year; and he mentions the fact that when our fleet visited Japan the Pagans rebuked the Christians of the American expedition for destroying little birds, and the Japanese authorities made a formal complaint to the American officers against this barbarous and inhuman practice.

While the controversy is going on in Washington, as to whether Paulding did right or wrong in Walker's arrest, active preparations are being made in the South for the sending out of a filibuster expedition under Gen. Henington, from Galveston or New Orleans, for the relief of Col. Frank Anderson, who at the latest dates occupied Castillo fort. Instructions of a peremptory character have been despatched South to Collectors, District Attorneys, Marshals, &c., against the departure of filibustering expeditions, and to rigidly enforce our neutrality laws.

The Iowa State Democrat says:—"Hon. Wm. H. M. Pusey, State Senator elect from the Council Bluffs district, will represent 23 organized counties. The area of country comprising this district is much larger than either of the States of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, or New Jersey—three times as large as Connecticut—nearly seven times as large as the State of Delaware—and larger than Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut put together."

It is stated that some gentlemen of Philadelphia have sent out to the Great Eastern Steamship Company of England, proposals to contract for the launch of the Leviathan. The North American says that should the company accept the terms of payment—which are made entirely contingent upon the success of the undertaking—the contracting parties will proceed at once to render available the mighty monster which at present bids fair to be useless without their aid.

As an evidence of the immense trade of the Lakes, we notice that there are now frozen up in the harbor of Chicago no less than 217 vessels, viz: 35 steamers and propellers, 217 barges, 38 brigs, and 123 schooners. A proportionate number of vessels have gone into winter quarters at other lake ports.—The ice at Chicago on Friday, was only about an inch in thickness, yet sufficient to put a stop to navigation.

The trial of Thos. Washington Smith, for the murder of Richard Carter, the president of the Tananqua Bank, has commenced in Philadelphia, and attracts much interest.—The murder was committed at the St. Lawrence Hotel, in a public sitting-room, and in apparently the most deliberate manner. The prisoner is described as having changed but little since his examination. His principal counsel is David Paul Brown, esq.

A leader in the Washington States argues that bankrupt Mexico needs money to prevent anarchy and disruption; that the golden moment has arrived for the purchase of Sonora, which obstructs our best route to the Pacific. It protests against long negotiations about the matter.

Mr. Bernheisel, of Utah, has appeared before the Committee on Territories. Mr. Stephens, the chairman, called on the President to consult. The President said that Utah was not yet in rebellion—only threatened. The committee will probably report in favor of Mr. Bernheisel.

The Fredericksburg Recorder has a well considered article on the subject of the appointment of Bank Directors by the Executive, on the part of the State, in which it hopes that Governor Wise will "in the appointment of the Bank Directors, look not so much to their political prominence and predilections, as to their financial acumen and business capacity. Nor is the latter the only requisite. There are many men of noted expertise, vigilance, and nicety in pecuniary transactions, who nevertheless are totally unfit to set in the Directory of any Bank or have any control over its operations." The Recorder adds:—"The most important characteristic of a Bank Director is found in him, who entertains a true and unprejudiced estimate of the pecuniary necessities of the community, and renders to them such judicious relief as the condition of the Bank will allow. He who advocates the relief of the community at the cost of ruin to the Bank, is as unfitted for the position of Director as one who would impoverish the people to 'guard the securities' of the Bank. A happy medium between these two unsuitable characters can be found wherever banks exist, and to such should the Governor confide the representation of the States interest, thereby securing reliable protection to those interests, and at the same time guaranteeing to the people a just regard for their wants and necessities."

The Hon. W. W. Boyce, who represents the Richland District, S. C., is about to make a movement in Congress of a rather stupendous character. It is his intention, says the Richmond South, to introduce resolutions, having for their object the appointment of a special committee to enquire into the expediency of changing—i. e. abolishing—the present Revenue System and organizing in its place another that will be more in conformity with the maxims and principles of "Free Trade."

Under the foreign advices by the Atlantic, from Liverpool the 26th ult., stocks were well sustained in New York in the afternoon, when prices were much better.—Cotton is reported at an advance of 1/2, closing firm, with a large speculative inquiry. This is quite in contrast with the form decline for some time reported. Money was easier in London, with negotiations at 8 per cent. The bank rate, though an expectation was indulged that there would be.

Mayor Tiemann, of New York, sent in his first annual message to the city councils, on Tuesday. It is more than twice the length of the Governor's annual message. The total city debt is set down at \$17,614,191, and the value of the property owned by the city at \$44,000,000. The real and personal property in the city subject to taxation is valued at \$521,172,252, and since 1850 the taxes have increased \$4,825,780.

The remittance to England by the Persia is about a million and a half of dollars, and this is mostly for interest on bonds, &c. Very little goes out on mercantile accounts. Amidst the gloom which the disasters of the last three months have produced, it is gratifying to notice the promptness with which States and Corporations have provided means for paying their interest and dividends.

In Henrico country, where the ladies are so lovely that a stranger rarely passes through without losing his heart, the Clerk of the Court has issued 177 marriage licenses, for the year 1857. In the city of Richmond, notwithstanding the fact that the population is four or five times as great, the Clerk of the Hustings Court has issued but 167—ten less than in Henrico.

The Montreal Pilot of the 30th ultimo, says:—"We are now having a regular old-fashioned snow storm. It began snowing yesterday at noon, has continued ever since, and still continues as we go to press. About two feet have fallen. Thermometer at three o'clock this afternoon 27 degrees above zero. All the trains coming into the city were delayed by the storm."

A singular piece of information comes to us from France, to the effect that the Government of Napoleon is about concluding a treaty with the Sandwich Islands, which will virtually place them under a French protectorate. The subject is one of especial interest to the people of this country, and will doubtless receive from our Government all the attention it deserves.

The Sons of Malta, in Boston, have formed a Grand Lodge for Massachusetts, to have jurisdiction over the New England States until such time as grand lodges shall be established in those States severally. They have also donated \$500 for charitable purposes, leaving a reserve fund on hand of nearly \$1,000.

A vessel has arrived at New York with a cargo of guano from the Island of Elide, in the Pacific, which is situated—so say the owners of the cargo—where so little rain falls that the crust of guano is not penetrated, and consequently the ammonia is in all localities where rain falls in any considerable quantity.

The St. Louis Republican of the 31st instant contains the following despatch from Booneville, received the day previous: "All is quiet in Kansas Territory." This was forwarded by Captain E. N. Tracy, of the steamer Isabella, who left Leavenworth on the 31st ultimo, six days later than the assumed date of the false despatch received on Monday.

There will be a morning reception at the Executive Mansion, in Washington, on Saturday, (to-morrow,) commencing at one o'clock, and on every succeeding Saturday during the season. The evening reception will commence on Tuesday next, at eight o'clock, and will take place on each alternate Tuesday.

The Kansas-Nebraska act does not require the signatures of the presiding officers of the Legislature to acts passed over the Governor's veto. The Kansas Militia act, the repeal of the rebellion act, &c., are, therefore, it is contended, fully valid.

The Merchants' and Manufacturers' Bank at Pittsburg formally resumed the payment of specie on all its liabilities, on Tuesday, thus taking the lead of all the banks of Pennsylvania. Others will probably follow suit in a few days.

The plans of the Secretary of War, for the reinforcement of the Army at Utah, at the earliest moment, after the opening of Spring, have been consummated.

The Washington Star understands that active preparations are in progress at the Navy Department for Court-martialing Commander Chataud.

The newly elected Senators from Minnesota (Messrs. Rice and Shields) have reached Washington.

Debate on the Case of Walker.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, January 5. Mr. HASKIN, of New York, took exception especially to the remark of the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Stephens) yesterday that Walker was a better man than Com. Paulding. He denied the assertion. Who was Gen. Walker? He first heard of him when he was defeated and driven out of Sonora. Then he went to Nicaragua, where he had a temporary success; but the first thing he did as the head of that Government was to seize the steamers, thus cutting off communication between his forces and their supplies and bringing about his own downfall and that of the brave spirits with him. He next heard of Walker when he was rescued from Nicaragua through the humane exertions of our naval officers, as related in the report of the Secretary of the Navy, which he read.

He recollected seeing the remnant of the deluded men composing this unfortunate expedition when they were brought to New York, and a more barefooted and half-starved, and only shirts and pantaloons, and shivering and wounded, dirty and boozed. Many of them had now gone to "that border whence no traveler returns," and should their shades appear to William Walker he could not say to them, "Thou canst not say I did it."

Who was Commodore Paulding? He was the son of that New Jersey farmer who, with Williams and Van Wert—three poor soldiers in the Continental army—was engaged in a friendly game of "old sledge" at the time Major Andra, the British spy, was riding away from West Point. He stopped the spy, and notwithstanding his pass, his arguments, and his tempting bribes, they delivered him to the American camp and he was hanged. John Paulding had no warrant, and had received no special instructions to arrest Andre. He had nothing from the Continental Government to authorize it.

Mr. C. B. COCHRANE, of New York, inquired if the gentleman believed a disposition to defend the law of nations ran in the family. Mr. HASKIN only mentioned these things to show that Commodore Paulding came of a good stock, and believed he was a worthy son of that stock. He had always been a faithful and valuable officer. No act had been done since the present Administration had been inaugurated which would more honor and glory on the country than this act of Commodore Paulding in arresting Walker.

Mr. HASKIN hoped the responsible majority in the House would not fritter away that glory which belonged to the nation by passing resolutions of censure. A medal had been voted to Commodore Ingraham for his noble conduct, and in his opinion a medal was also due to Commodore Paulding. He had no sickly sentimentalism on the subject of filibustering; on the contrary, he was a national filibuster. Private enterprise would only retard the acquisition of Central America and the other places which we ought to have. He believed the time had arrived for applying the doctrines promulgated in the Ostend document for our protection and preservation.

Mr. KITTS, of South Carolina, inquired if the gentleman was in favor of the nation's breaking faith while compelling individuals to keep it. Mr. HASKIN said he was not in favor of breaking faith, but would go with the gentleman from South Carolina for the seizure of Cuba whenever our Government would take the responsibility, as England was in the habit of doing. Northern Democrats were ready for that, and he believed the feeling came naturally from the mother country. The gentleman from North Carolina, who was the North believed the Government ought by conquest to do certain things. This business of Walker's was committing petty larceny; if they were to gain anything by larceny at all he was in favor of national grand larceny. Look at the recent conduct of England in China, India, and elsewhere. Look at her recent seizure of Perim, (a small island at the entrance of the Red sea, near the coast of Africa), which she wanted for a naval depot. Her naval force did it, and she committed no responsibility. Let our Government act up to this standard, and they would find thousands of Northern Democrats to sustain them. They believed in the "manifest destiny" of the Republic; that no potent Utes contracts our powers, but the whole boundless continent is ours.

He designed, however, only to defend Com. Paulding, and to put upon record his position as a pure, hard-shelled, National Democrat.

Mr. STEPHENS, of Georgia, said, in his remarks yesterday he did not intend to assail the character of Commodore Paulding further than so far as it was affected by the act of arresting Walker. That was without law or color of law. Upon that point alone he was to stand. It might be that his grandfather had the honor of refusing a bribe; as far as that went to his credit, let it go. The gentleman had spoken of the sad condition of Walker's men after their return, through the illegal interference of Commander Davis. What put them in that condition? Perhaps they had been robbed. He had heard, too, that Walker's men now at Norfolk were poor, lazy, and lousy. They were lousy, he believed, in company with naval officers, and he did not know whether or not these officers could look upon them and say—

"Thou canst not say I did it."

He made no intimation against Commodore Paulding further than his act justified. If the act was illegal it was an outrage that ought to be redressed.

Mr. HASKIN referred to instances where American officers had exceeded their instructions and been sustained. That should be the case whenever the act was morally right though technically wrong. Gen. Jackson was fined for placing New Orleans under martial law, but afterwards the fine was paid by Congress, and he was made President. He also referred to the seizure of pirates by Commodore Porter. He looked upon Walker not as a general, but as a wanderer, and that was the view taken by the conservative National Democrats of the North.

Mr. COCKER, of Virginia, as chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs, had met many naval officers, but none who were "lazy and lousy;" if the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Stephens) had met with such he was sorry for his associations.

Mr. GILMER, of North Carolina, thought if Government had no power to enforce obedience to the law on the part of citizens of the United States, it was time the Constitution was amended so as to give that power. Inasmuch as no voice had been heard from the South in defense of Commodore Paulding, he desired to express his sympathy with the gentleman from New York who had spoken in his behalf. He believed it would be found that he had done nothing worthy of censure, but had acted under instructions properly issued. Walker had given bail to answer to a criminal charge and then escaped, which increased to necessity for vigilance, and warranted the instructions. The recognition given by Walker was not like bail in the common sense, but a recognition to answer, and he held as a lawyer that Walker had violated his bonds and was a fugitive from justice.

Old King Lear, in the play, when he was in the storm, said in apostrophe to the rain, wind, thunder, and lightning:—"You owe me no subscription."

Practice, of the Louisville Journal, says he wishes he could say as much to all his readers!

The Religious Herald of Thursday publishes 25 marriage notices—all of recent occurrence. Hurra for Cupid!

Late Foreign News.

GREAT BRITAIN.—President Buchanan's message attracted much attention in England. It was telegraphed entire from Liverpool to some of the London journals, being the longest dispatch ever sent by telegraph in England.

The London Times confines its reviews of the message to the financial crisis and the Central American question. It construes Mr. Buchanan's remarks on the former subjects into a tribute to the monetary system of England, and commends them to the attention of its readers.

On the Central American question, the Times says:—"We have much pleasure in receiving the assurance from Mr. Buchanan 'that the interests of the two countries are identical, being confined to securing a safe transit over all the routes across the Isthmus. Let the American Government give proof of this, and we are sure that matters will be speedily settled.'"

Common sense must tell the Americans that in these questions we are strictly on the defensive, and the most inveterate declaimer against England cannot deny the conciliatory spirit in which she has treated them. But we can hardly be asked to give up the treaty of 1850 without a guarantee that all its important provisions shall be re-enacted, and the whole series of irritating disputes brought forever to an end.

The London Post hauls the message generally and says:—"This great state paper, both from the friendly spirit which it breathes to foreign nations, and from the determination which it expresses to put down the archiepiscopacy of Filibustering, is highly creditable to the moderation, judgment, and public spirit of Mr. Buchanan."

The Daily News praises the frankness of the foreign policy of the President, and says that "in tone and feeling, as regards England, nothing can be more unobjectionable than the language of Mr. Buchanan's Message."

It also endorses his views on the commercial crisis, but says that the stilling tone of the message, in the affairs of Kansas is in painful contrast with the frank and manly tone of that portion which treats of foreign policy.

Further attempts to launch the Leviathan were postponed until the Spring tides at the commencement of January. The hydraulic power was to be more than doubled. The ship remained even and fair on the ways, and at high tide had nearly six feet of water under her.

The report of an intended alliance between the Prince of Orange and the Princess Alice of England, is said to be totally destitute of foundation.

Rumors of ministerial changes were again in circulation. The Lord and a Liverpool merchant that Mr. Vernon Smith will leave the Board of Central, and be succeeded by Sir C. Wood; and that should Mr. Smith retire, his patron, the Marquis of Lansdowne, will probably withdraw from Ministerial life.

Mr. Jas. Copeck, the celebrated parliamentarian, is dead.

The London Times continues its agitation in favor of importing free laborers in the West India Islands.

The marriage treaty of the Princess Royal of England with the Prussian Minister and Lord Chamberlain, and also by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The long pending dispute between the King of Hanover and the Queen of England as to the right to some "Crown Jewels" valued at over a million sterling, is said to have been recently settled in favor of the claims of Hanover.

FRANCE.—The extraordinary trial of Madame de Jeussie, her two sons and her game keeper, for the murder of M. Guillot, had terminated in the acquittal of all the prisoners.

The French ships of war intended for China were to leave Toulon between the 20th and 25th of December, and would proceed direct to Hong Kong with 500 troops on board. The projected expedition to Cochinchina is understood to be abandoned.

Commercial affairs in Paris had slightly improved. Spirits had risen in price since the imposition of the duty on foreign brandies. Whoa! whoa! had slightly declined.

SWITZERLAND.—The Swiss Federal Council has officially laid before the authorities of the Canton de Vaud the question of the cession of the Vallée des Dappes to France.

NAPLES.—The Neapolitan Government has declared the steamer Gagliardi to be a fair prize of war. The Minister of Foreign Affairs has published a statement supporting this view. The English prisoners are included in the imprisonment, to be tried immediately.

The city of Naples experienced three violent shocks of earthquake, and the population had been in the open country.—The Northern parts were exempt.

RUSSIA.—An imperial decree had been promulgated providing for the partial emancipation of the serfs. The decree institutes some important changes in the relation between the peasantry and landed proprietors of the country.

The First Christian Church in the U. S. Captain John Smith gives the following interesting sketch of the earliest state of the infant Church in the original settlement in Virginia.

"When I first went to Virginia, I well remember we did not know an evening (which is an odd story to three or four true to show us from the Sunne) our ways were shrouded in wood, our paths unwhetted trees, till we cut planks, our Pulpit a bar of wood nailed to two neighbouring trees; in foul weather we shifted into an old rotten tent for we had few better, and this came by way of adventure for new. This was our Church till we built a homely thing like a barn, set upon crutches, covered with rats, sedge and earth; so was also the walls, that could neither well defend wind nor rain. Yet we had daily Common Prayer morning and evening, every Sunday two Sermons, and every three months the Holy Communion, till our Minister died."

This extract is from a very rare tract (we scarce that we do not know of any copy in this country), entitled "Advertisements for Unexperienced Planters of New England," etc., printed in 1631. The minister referred to was the Rev. Robert Hunt, the first English clergyman who accompanied the colonists of Virginia.

The Ramoth Hog. It is not our purpose to exult over the whole world, and the 'rest of mankind';—but, we are sincere in believing that no hog has been slaughtered in Virginia this season or on any former occasion, which can compare with the gross and nett weight of the one we now advert to. His length was seven feet from the end of his snout to the root of the tail; six feet five inches around his body; he was three feet, seven inches and 3/4ths high—gross weight nine hundred—net, seven hundred and seventy-eight and an half pounds; and was twenty seven months old; great accuracy was observed in weight and measurement. He was raised by Mr. Jacob Burner, near town, and was purchased some weeks since, by Chas. Welsh, esq., for a sum of fifty dollars, and was brought to town on Christmas day in a wagon preparatory to his sale, and was slaughtered on the 29th ult., and during the interval, the supposition is, that he must have lost at least, from 12 to 15 pounds. Mr. Welsh, intends presenting one of the hams, weighing 70 pounds, to His Excellency the President of the United States.—Woodstock Truth Legion

Telegraphic Despatches.

PETERSBURG, Jan. 6.—A large and enthusiastic meeting of the friends and sympathizers of Walker and his movements was held here to night. Resolutions were adopted, and sympathizing with the hero in his adversity, were read and unanimously adopted.

The meeting was participated in by many of the influential and prominent citizens of both political parties. Messrs. Pryor, Banks, and others, addressed the meeting, denouncing the government for its intervention, and Com. Paulding particularly. Throughout the meeting great feeling and sympathy were manifested for the filibuster and his cause.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The Senate, in executive session, to-day, were engaged nearly three hours, discussing matters connected with the nomination of Mr. Sedgwick, district attorney for New York, in place of Mr. McKim. While it is probable that the former will be confirmed, some of those who intend voting in the affirmative will define their positions, believing that the President has the right or power to change the officer, but not justifying his removal for the reasons alleged.

The nomination of Mr. Clifford to the vacancy on the Supreme Court bench, is still pending in the Senate.

The debate in the House to-day concerning the defence of Com. Paulding, strengthened the belief that that officer will not be recalled.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 6.—The trains on the Marietta Railroad have stopped, and the business of the road is suspended in consequence of the strike of the employees. The farmers of the vicinity and others have destroyed portions of the track, but Superintendent Barnes is endeavoring to arrange matters for an early resumption.

BOSTON, Jan. 6.—Frank Heath, and his sister, Miriam, have been arrested for the murder of their father at Braut. Miriam has confessed that she first attempted to poison her father, and that Frank shot him and buried the body. They seem to have but a faint idea of the enormity of the offence.

BOSTON, Jan. 6.—A man named Stevens, of New Hampshire, was arrested in this city to-day, charged with uttering counterfeit bills on the John Hancock Bank, of Springfield. He is probably connected with the New York gang.

BOSTON, Jan. 6.—The Legislature of Massachusetts organized here to-day by the choice of the Republican nominees in both branches. Governor Banks is to be inaugurated to-morrow.

CHICAGO, Jan. 2.—A fire occurred last night on Clark street, between Quincy and Jackson streets. Loss is estimated at \$50,000; insured for \$50,000.

The Indians at the Smithsonian.

On Monday morning, about twenty of the Indian chiefs and warriors now in the city, visited the Smithsonian Institution, and were conducted through the various departments, where they evinced their surprise and delight at their well fashioned. In the picture gallery (Stanley's Indian paintings), they were particularly interested by the representation of a war dance around two captives—a woman and a child. They were much disappointed in not finding portraits of any of their own tribes in the gallery.

In the apparatus room, a number of them were induced to join hands, and a severe galvanic shock was given them. Some of them gave vent to the significant "ugh," indicating their surprise, and turned fiercely about to discover the person they supposed had struck them; others rubbed their arms and elbows, and from the general talk in their own language, one would suppose they had entered upon a scientific discussion of the nature of the singular manifestations.

Afterwards several of them took shocks singly, and it was curious to witness the grim determination with which these stories of the wilderness undertook to assume that air of impassiveness which tradition asserts they maintain when undergoing torture as captives. But it was no galley here to kneel to science, and, as one after the other of the astonished braves was dumbly up, tumbled upon his knees, and knocked into a heap generally by the powerful battery, he was saluted by most uproarious jeers and laughter by his fellows.

Some of the party mounted the high north tower of the Institute, but when at the top only one of them could be prevailed upon to approach the edge and look down the dizzy height—most of them squatting down as soon as they reached the summit.

One of them was observed placing small pieces of tobacco on the parapet. The interpreter explained that this was intended as an offering to the Great Spirit, as the Indians believed that at this height they were nearer the Deity than they had ever been before, and accordingly improved the opportunity to pay their worship.

On descending the Indians had a grand war dance with singing, in the lecture room, and shortly after concluded this visit, most interesting to both the Indians and the "pale faces," present.—Wash. Star.

Impressive Words of Gen. Shields.

A volunteer in the Mexican war, writing from Baltimore to the National Intelligencer, says:—"May I ask a small space in the columns of your paper, for the purpose of laying before its readers the few words that escaped the lips of General James Shields, when he was being carried off the field of battle at 'Cerro Gordo,' Mexico—supposed at the time to be mortally wounded and dying, having been shot through the body with an 'ossep' ball, I was one of the party that assisted in conveying him from the field, and the words are as vividly impressed upon my mind as if they had just met my ears. They were these:—

"Men, I am of no further use to my country. You are. Lay me down, and let me die. I might as well die here, as to be taken off to die. You are all strong, able-bodied men; able to do your country some service. For God's sake lay me down, and go do your duty."

This brave hero and accomplished gentleman has just been elected one of the U. S. Senators from Minnesota.

Church and State.

The good people of Putnam county, Tennessee, are contemplating a practical union of Church and State, as announced in the following item in the Cookeville Times:—"We are pleased to learn that an arrangement is made to complete the new Methodist church in this place, so far